

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough examination of the present application. The Office Action mailed October 10, 2006 rejected claims 32-97. This is a full and timely response to that outstanding Office Action. Upon entry of the amendments in this response, claims 32-97 are pending. More specifically, claims 43, 45, 49, 51, 52, 53, 55, 60, 61, 88, 89, and 93 are amended.

I. Present Status of Patent Application

Claims 37-39 are objected to for misnumbering. Claims 32-97 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly being unpatentable over claims 1-21 of U.S. Patent No. 6,550,010. Claims 32-97 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by *Link, II et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,550,010). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

II. Misnumbering of Claims 37-39

Claims 37-39 are objected to for misnumbering. The presented claims reflect the correct claim numbering to obviate the objection.

III. Rejections Over Obviousness-Type Double Patenting

Claims 32-97 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly being unpatentable over claims 1-21 of U.S. Patent No. 6,550,010. Applicant files a Terminal Disclaimer herewith to obviate the rejection.

IV. Rejection of Claims 32-97 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e)

Claims 32-97 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by *Link, II et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,550,010). The '010 patent is a parent of the instant application. Therefore, all rejections under the '010 patent are improper and should be withdrawn.

V. Miscellaneous Issues

A request for correction to the filing receipt was filed on November 22, 2004 requesting that the filing date be corrected to June 11, 2002. Applicant respectfully requests an update on the status of that request.

Any other statements in the Office Action that are not explicitly addressed herein are not intended to be admitted. In addition, any and all findings of inherency are traversed as not having been shown to be necessarily present. Furthermore, any and all findings of well-known art and official notice, or statements interpreted similarly, should not be considered well known for the particular and specific reasons that the claimed combinations are too complex to support such conclusions and because the Office Action does not include specific findings predicated on sound technical and scientific reasoning to support such conclusions.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that all objections and/or rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated, and that the now pending claims 32-97 are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

It is believed that no extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those which may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to deposit account No. 20-0778.

Respectfully submitted,

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